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SOVIET PROGRESS IN TOOL PRODUCTION DURING 1949

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Two conveyors are usually used in the production of one-piece cutting tools such as taps and threading dies. All machining operations prior to heat treatment are performed on one conveyor, and all operations subsequent to heat treatment are performed on the other. At the Novosibirsk Tool Plant, all machining, heat treatment, and assembly operations, as well as other operations such as packing, are carried out by the conveyor method in the manufacture of adjustable wrenches.

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In the production of measuring instruments such as slide gages, micrometers and indicators, conveyors are used for the most part only for assembly and finishing operations. At the Kalibr Plant, however, machining operations are also included in the manufacture of slide gages and micrometers. At present the billets for all 12 basic micrometer parts begin their journey on the conveyor in the material stockroom. The conveyor carries them through all stages of machining and assembling so that finished micrometers come off the conveyor one after another.

Great strides have also made been made in the extensive utilization of automatic lathes, both single-spindle and multispindle (four-eight spindles). At the Frezer Plant, the proportion of automatic operations in the production of taps before the war was 16 percent, and in the production of round threading dies, zero percent. The ratio now has grown to 48 and 31 percent, respectively.

In the conveyor production of round threading dies, special multispindle combination machine tools are being used more and more for drilling chip holes. The machine tools are being produced by the Kharkov Combination-Machine-Tool Plant. Their productivity is nearly twice that of drilling machines equipped with jigs. Drilling of side holes in round threading dies is at present being done on four-spindle special combination machine tools built by the Kharkov Plant.

Sizing of threads on round threading dies was successfully mechanized at the Frezer Plant. This is an operation which had been performed by hand for a long time.

Special hobs were used for machining teeth on milling cutters at the Minsk Tool Plant, with the result that productivity doubled and the geometry of the teeth was improved.

A great deal of attention is being given to the use of multiposition automatic attachments while organizing conveyor methods. An interesting attachment is in use at the Kalibr Plant in the production of slide gages and micrometers. Up to 20 parts are machined simultaneously in each attachment on a milling machine or grinder. Multiposition attachments are also widely used in the production of /cutter/ sections, mills, and fitting and assembly tools. At the Novosibirsk Tool Plant external broaching is being successfully carried on with the use of automatic clamping devices.

The Frezer Plant has started series production of sectional hobs with a module from 16 to 30 millimeters.

The Leningrad Tool Plant has tooled up for series production of external toothed gages, that is, indicators for checking the basic pitch of gears up to a module of 20 and tangential toothed gages for checking the same gears up to a module of 36. The Kalibr Plant has started to produce pneumatic precision instruments with graduations to 0.2 microns for measuring a 3-millimeter diameter hole or larger, and for measuring the external diameter of rings, etc. Production of an interferometer, designed by Engineer I. T. Iverskiy, has also been started at this plant. The instrument has a variable scale with graduations from 0.2 to 0.03 microns.

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